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WAR NEWS.

Reports brought in by Gen. Sigel's scouts represent the Confederate army as retreating towards Richmond. Three deserters—two conscripts and one Northern man—gave themselves up on Monday to the Federal scouts at Thoroughfare Gap. These men state that the Confederate army is retreating from Winchester at Staunton, and their cattle at Fort Jackson towards Richmond; that their supply train son, and Longstreet, with his command, is already on the road to Richmond, and will soon be followed by the whole Confederate army.

From Wheeling we learn by a special despatch, that the entire wagon train of the Confederate General Imboden has been captured by the Federal forces, together with two pieces of artillery, some small arms, and fifty prisoners. The train was loaded with supplies of all kinds. The Federal forces are in pursuit of the Confederates in the Great Cacapon Valley.

The Federal forces under General Schofield in Southwest Missouri on Saturday attacked the Confederates at Newtona. After a two hours engagement, in which they suffered heavily, the Confederates broke and retired. It was understood that they were concentrating their whole force at a point twelve miles distant, and Gen. Schofield was pushing rapidly forward with the expectation of renewing the battle on Sunday.

The Confederate loss at Corinth is reported at eight hundred killed and between fifteen and eighteen hundred wounded. The Federal loss is believed to be about three hundred killed and one thousand wounded. The houses of the town were much damaged by the shot and shell during the engagement.

A dispatch from Louisville announces that the Confederates have evacuated Frankfort.—On Saturday, Richard Hawes was inaugurated as Confederate Governor of Kentucky. Several of the military officers present made anti-Union speeches. The Infantry moved South after the inauguration, leaving some cavalry, who also evacuated the town next morning.

Advices from Port Royal report, through deserters, the arrival of General Beauregard at Savannah. The Fingal and another floating battery will be ready in two weeks. The Federal troops had destroyed the salt works at Bluffton, and also shelled the Confederate battery at Cranston Bluff, on the Savannah river.

Information is received that the Texas troops in Arkansas have been ordered to return to their own State since the recent Federal successes at Marshall and Shreveport.

The Richmond Examiner of the 3d instant, in a leading editorial, argues that "the Northern Government is about to make the third throw for Richmond."

The Richmond Enquirer of the 4th has an article seriously urging prompt and energetic preparations to meet the coming shock, which it says is to be of the most gigantic proportions.

GEN. BUTLER AND PIERRE SOULE.—We find, in a letter purporting to have come from New Orleans, and published in the Philadelphia Inquirer, the following account of a reported interview between Gen. Butler and Pierre Soule. What is the amount of credit to which the statement is entitled, we do not know:—

"It was my good fortune to be in the room, and I certainly shall never forget the remarkable scene. Soule was dignified, cold, polite, as usual, Butler receiving him most civilly, rising and taking his hand as he approached. Soule commenced what sounded like a set speech.—"Gen. Butler," he said with an air of deep seriousness, "I regret to find yourself and myself upon different roads. We have been acquainted for fifteen years; for ten years we have been intimate friends. We have differed sometimes with regard to details, but have agreed always upon great questions of policy. Why need we differ now? We met at Charleston to save the Union from the fanaticism of the North. We preferred different candidates—you Breckinridge, I Douglas; but our political principles were identical."

"Then—not another word!" shouted Butler, with an imperative gesture, as he sprung to his feet—for as the conspirator proceeded he had been evidently warming to the interruption—"not another word, you hypocrite!—You lied to me at Charleston! I shall never forget how basely you lied! I held private interviews with you there as a gentleman and a friend—you deceived and deserted me! You, Pierre Soule, and those who acted with you, said you would stand by me to the last in a fair and legal fight for Southern rights; that you would stand by the Northern Democracy.—You know how false you proved! I want to hear no new professions. Leave the room instantly! And by!—if you ever call me your friend again, I will give you a ball and chain at Fort Pickens; and if you do not cease your treasonable plottings against the life of the Union, I will have you hung from these windows!" The vehemence of Gen. Butler was terrible, and the occasional undisguised oath, that flashed here and there, did not add mildness to the denunciation.

From Harper's Ferry.

HARPER'S FERRY, Oct. 4.—Gen. Kimball's brigade, including the Fifth United States Cavalry (regulars,) with Major Robertson's battery, Second Regulars, and the Second New York heavy artillery, returned here last night from Leesburg. They were placed, at times, in very dangerous positions, and narrowly escaped being cut off and taken prisoners. A picket taken says that the Confederate army has abundant supplies of everything, with the exception of coffee and sugar, which cannot be had: That at Leesburg the Confederates have a force of one Regiment of Infantry, one Brigade of Cavalry, comprising the 2d, 6th and 7th Virginia Cavalry, with a battery of four guns of light artillery, under Capt. Choose, the whole under the command of Col. Mumford, acting Brigadier-General, who was Lieutenant Colonel of Ashby's Cavalry.

"A Ruse."

[Correspondence of the Philadelphia Inquirer.]

BOLIVAR HEIGHTS, Oct. 5.—It seems that some time during the afternoon of yesterday, a couple of young ladies approached a portion of the Federal pickets, and after entering into conversation with them, and implying in that conversation that they were heartily Union, at the same time invited a portion of the said pickets to accompany them to their home, where they should be pleased to furnish them with eatables, in the way of bread, milk, pies, &c.

To those who had for so long been luxuriating in "Hard Tack" and "Salt Horse," the opportunity was too good to be lost; so, some twenty or more—some from General Howard's, and others from General Hancock's divisions—availed themselves of the opportunity thus offered to freely regale themselves upon these luxuries.

The house was some three-quarters of a mile from the picket station; but the boys, nothing daunted, followed the lead of their fair advance couriers, and soon found themselves seated at a table, indulging in all the delicacies promised.

It is more than likely that at this time signals were given from this same house, for no sooner were the guests fairly under way with their eating than they discovered that the house was surrounded by Confederate cavalry and they prisoners of war, and that they were on their way further into Virginia than they had anticipated going at present. One, however, managed to escape, and gave the particulars of their capture.

Capt. Job Ruark, of schooner Statesman, arrived at Washington yesterday, and says that the Confederates had succeeded in placing a battery at Cockpit Point. At just before sunset on Monday one of the Federal gunboats ran in to the point and shelled the battery, entirely destroying it. He thinks that there must have been a considerable quantity of combustible material in the immediate vicinity of the battery, as a large fire was burning nearly all the night. The captain of the schooner Eliza Ann Johnson, states that he spoke a schooner below Cockpit Point which warned him not to go too near in, as the steamer Georgia had been fired on, and was told that the gunboats had run in and shelled the Confederates out, setting the place on fire. The captain had heard firing during the afternoon, and as he came up he saw three gunboats lying out from the Point, and a large fire burning on shore.

Gov. Morgan has sent a request to the War Department that as far as practicable the new regiments from New York may be attached to the division under the command of Major Gen. Daniel E. Sickles. Col. Charles K. Graham, at present Colonel of the Excelsior Regiment, is strongly recommended for the Brigadier-Generalship of the Metropolitan Guard.

George D. Spencer, a bailiff in the Washington Criminal Court, was arrested on Sunday, by order of Detective Baker, on the charge of disloyalty. He has been sent to the Old Capitol.

The stock of tobacco in San Francisco is ascertained to be 2,100,000 pounds.